

**Notice of Availability
of a Draft Environmental Impact Report for
Pierce's Disease Control Program
California Department of Food and Agriculture**

WHAT IS BEING PLANNED: The California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) has prepared an environmental assessment of the proposed Pierce's Disease Control Program (PDCP). The PDCP is a statewide effort to minimize the impact of Pierce's disease in California. CDFA is the agency responsible for coordinating the statewide comprehensive program. County agricultural commissioners would have the responsibility for local implementation of the program, with coordination by CDFA. The program has five central elements: public outreach, statewide survey, contain the spread, local management and rapid response, and research. The proposed program to be evaluated in this EIR is an extension of an ongoing emergency program and regulations mandated by the California State Legislature to control Pierce's disease and the glassy-winged sharpshooter.

WHY THIS AD: This notice is to inform you that the California Department of Food and Agriculture has prepared a Draft Environmental Impact Report (Draft EIR), which describes the potential environmental impacts of the proposed project. Our studies did not identify any impacts that could not be reduced to a level of insignificance. Our studies focused on potential impacts to agriculture and land use, hazards, water quality, and biological resources.

WHAT IS AVAILABLE: You can review the Draft EIR, appendices and all documents referenced in the EIR at the California Department of Food and Agriculture office: 1220 N Street, Room A-316, Sacramento (Contact: Jim Rains, 916-651-9371) on weekdays from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Copies of the Draft EIR and appendices will also be available for review at the following locations: main branches of all County Libraries, all City and County Planning Depts., and the Dept. of General Services, Environmental Services Section, 707 Third Street, 3rd floor, West Sacramento (Contact: Susan Stratton, 916-376-1610).

WHERE YOU COME IN: Do you have information that should be included? Do you agree with the findings? Your comments will be part of the public record. If you wish to comment on the Draft EIR, you may submit written comments from March 29, 2002 until May 17, 2002 to Susan Stratton, Sr. Environmental Planner, Dept. of General Services, Real Estate Services Division, Professional Services Branch, P.O. Box 989052, West Sacramento, CA 95798-9052.

WHEN AND WHERE: Public meetings will be held as follows:

City: Sacramento
Date: April 24, 2002
Time: 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.
Location: University of California Cooperative Extension/Agricultural Commissioner's Office
Large Conference Room
4137 Branch Center Road
Sacramento, CA

City: Riverside
Date: April 25, 2002
Time: 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.
Location: County Administrative Center, Room 13 (basement)
4080 Lemon Street
Riverside, CA

City: Napa
Date: April 29, 2002
Time: 6 p.m. to 9 p.m.
Location: Napa Valley Exposition, Riesling Hall
575 Third Street
Napa, CA

City: Tulare
Date: April 30, 2002
Time: 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.
Location: Tulare County Agricultural Building, Auditorium
4437 S. Laspina
Tulare, CA

City: San Luis Obispo
Date: May 1, 2002
Time: 6 p.m. to 9 p.m.
Location: Veterans Memorial Building, Main Hall
801 Grand Avenue
San Luis Obispo, CA

You may contact Jim Rains at 916-651-9371 or Susan Stratton at 916-376-1610 for specific meeting information. Meeting information will also be posted on the CDFA website at <http://www.cdfa.ca.gov/phpps/pdcp/>. Individuals who require special accommodation are requested to contact Jim Rains at CDFA at 916-651-9371 at least 21 days prior to the scheduled hearing date. TDD users may contact the California Relay Service TDD line at 1-800-735-2922. The meetings will be a moderated format with timed public presentations. California Department of Food and Agriculture staff, Department of General Services staff and the environmental consultants (EDAW, INC.) who prepared the report will be present. Comments made at the public meetings will be recorded and transcribed. All substantive comments on environmental issues will be addressed in the Final EIR.

CONTACT: For more information about this project, please contact Susan Stratton, Sr. Environmental Planner at 916-376-1610, Fax 916-376-1606, Department of General Services, Real Estate Services Division.